

& endangered species, especially mussels. NCWRC is willing to assist with mussel surveys or relocations, if necessary.

Needmore Road is a popular spot for camping and fishing. We are concerned for the public's safety while enjoying the natural resources of the area. Some areas along the road have limited site distance and many motorists travel the road at unsafe speeds. Cutting into the adjacent slopes to improve site distance is likely undesirable due to the acidic nature of the rock in the area. We understand that the unpaved portion of the road is not posted for speed, while a paved section in Swain County has a 35-mph speed limit. We recommend a number of measures be investigated to slow traffic in order to improve public safety, while preventing negative impacts to the rare and valuable resources and preserve the rural character that makes it a popular recreational area. We suggest that the measures considered include posting a 35-mph maximum speed limit and installing speed bumps, rumble strips, guardrails and/or warning signs in appropriate areas.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input in the planning stages of this project and look forward to continue working with you on it. If you have any questions, please contact me at (704) 485-2384.

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